

W. C. T. U. NOTES.

The following address was given by Bishop Stevens to the W. C. T. U. Convention of South Carolina. It speaks for itself and will be of interest to those who read it.

A STIRRING ADDRESS.

BISHOP STEVENS.

MRS. PRESIDENT, AND LADIES OF THE W. C. T. U.

Upon me has been conferred the honor of welcoming you to Charleston. You are engaged in too serious a matter to expect or desire any mere courtly compliments. You are striving to suppress one of the greatest evils that afflict our race, and I can speak only words of soberness and truth.

The first truth that I would utter, is a protest against man's charge, as pitiful and ungodly as untrue, that women caused all the sin and evil there is in the world. Man had his full share, if not the greater part, in that causing. The Scripture ascribes the sin of the race to Adam, not Eve. "For as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, so, in Adam all die." It is true that Eve was first in transgressing, but listen to St. Paul. "The woman, being deceived, was in the transgression," and "Adam was not deceived"—what then? The women fell unintentionally, because she was deceived; but the man was not deceived; he fell deliberately, with his eyes wide open to the sin, he sinned. And from that day to this, it has been pretty much the same way. Few women deliberately and knowingly enter into sin; almost invariably they are deceived, but men know the right and yet, undecieved, choose to do the wrong.

God made woman to help man, because he needed her help to do righteousness, even when yet unfallen. God did not make man to help the woman, and yet when she fell into transgression, instead of trying to lift and lead her back to holiness, he turned from his own righteousness to help on her sin and give it all its deadly power. Together man and woman brought evil into the world; together, by God-given strength, they must overcome it; neither can do it single-handed. If unfallen, man needed woman's help, much more does he need it, fallen. He may perform deeds of daring, feats of strength, intellectual achievements, without the help of woman, though the most and best of these have been done under her inspiring influence.

But he can make no great moral improvement, and overcome no great evil in the world, without woman's direct help. The great Master taught us this when He made disciples among the women of Galilee, and so poured out His spirit upon the handmaids of Judea, that they prophesied in His name and became deacons, servants, helps in His church, the great purifying agency in the world. Christianity lifted woman from beneath man's feet, and placed her erect by his side, his helper in all that is good, and noble, and true.

What department of moral advance can be efficient without woman's aid? Where the women are chaste, there men are generally frank and honest; where the women are kind and gentle, there the men are apt to be compassionate and merciful; where the women are sober, there men are most likely to be temperate. Prison reform, hospital improvement, houses of refuge, the benevolences of the church—all need woman's zeal, energy and refining touch to reach up to perfection. None needs them more than the work of temperance. Drinking men will grow angry at the remonstrances of their fellowmen, but they will listen to a woman's pleadings, if they listen at all.

You, ladies of W. C. T. U., have come here to incite your sisters of this city to exert their influence in the great work of temperance reform, and to help the men engaged in that work. We need your help, the help of all—of you who come among us as visitors, and you who live among us.

In no one thing are men more apt to pursue the wrong while knowing the right than in this matter of the liquor question. I do not mean the unfortunates who are under the influence of intemperate habits, but I mean the men who are themselves sober. There is not one man out of a hundred who does not know and acknowledge the evils of the liquor traffic. They know that it makes men drunkards and murderers, breaks women's hearts, impoverishes and degrades children, increases crime, increases taxes, and is a curse to the community. The mayor will tell you that this is so, the judges, the chief of police, the trial justices, the business man, will acknowledge it to be true, and yet they have not the moral strength to rise against it and crush it. The politicians, the rulers, the judges, the juries, and the business men, are all afraid of the liquor money power.

A few weeks ago there was an earnest discussion in this city about the heavy taxes, and the best method of lessening them. In the effort of one side to show that the taxes were not as high as in other cities, it was incidentally but distinctly shown that the liquor licenses were much lighter here than elsewhere, and yet but a single voice was raised to say, "lay the burden on the liquor traffic, and relieve the honest, useful business of the city." It is only as God shall move and use you, ladies, mothers, wives and sisters from, it may be, your own broken hearts, or from your tender compassion and deep conviction of moral right, to exert your full weight of influence, that the men of the country will be aroused to meet the issue and destroy the destroyer.

Go on then in your work: win the women of the land to your views and to your aid, and though the living congressmen, legislators, and aldermen may mock at your efforts, slight your petitions and defeat your bills, your hands have rung the knell of the liquor traffic. It is sounding from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Your grandchildren will rise up an irresistible host and sweep the saloon and the dram-shop from the face of the earth.

In behalf of the temperance-loving people of this fair city of Charleston, I bid you, ladies, a hearty welcome and an earnest God-speed!

Notice of Letters.

Notice is hereby given, that Letters of Administration on the estate of Joseph Albion, late of St. Clair county, State of Illinois, deceased, have been granted to the undersigned, W. W. Haywood, by the Probate Court of the County of Iron, bearing date the 23d day of March, 1889.

All persons having claims against said estate are required to exhibit them to me for allowance within one year after the date of said letters, or they may be precluded from any benefit of said estate; and if such claims be not exhibited within two years from the time of the publication of this notice, they will be forever barred.

W. W. HAYWOOD, Administrator.

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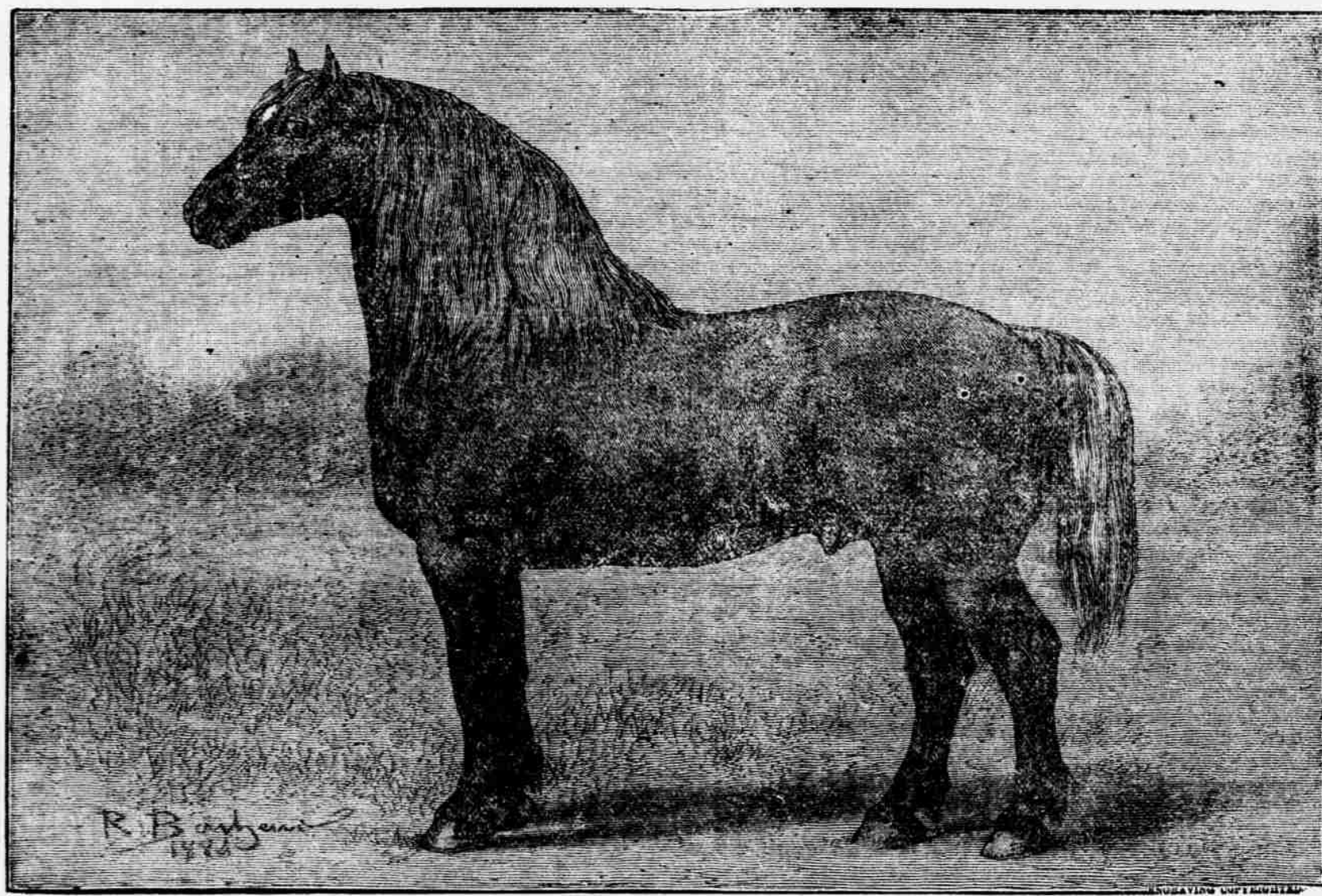
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"SILVER TAIL" is a beautiful Dapple Gray, three years old, 16½ hands high, big bone and muscle, and splendid action.

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Pilot Knob, March 15th, 1889.

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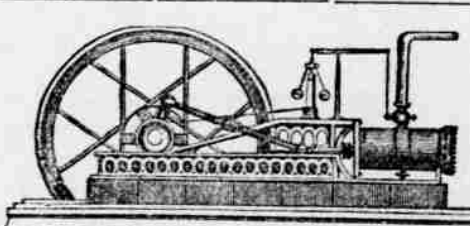
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